

# DROP THE CHARGES !

## Santa Cruz Eleven: The Final Four Monday, March 11th 1:30 PM Department 3 Motion to Dismiss All Charges

**Gabriella Ripply-Phipps, Brent Adams, Cameron Laurendau, & Angel Alcantara** face **concocted charges** of felony vandalism & misdemeanor trespass in the discredited SC-11 case. Scores of people protested the **fraudulent foreclosure actions of Wells Fargo Bank** by peacefully occupying the now 5-years vacant Wells Fargo-leased bank building at 75 River St. for 3 ½ days in late 2011. Unable to negotiate a community center there, the **protesters left without citation or arrest**. 2 ½ months later, SCPD and D.A. Bob Lee targeted eleven community activists with false felony charges for trespass and vandalism in the building, as part of a crackdown on the Occupy Movement.

What followed was **13 months of harassment and tens of thousands of dollars of public expense** in endless court hearings. Several of the 11 lost their jobs; one attempted suicide, and one has her housing ripped from under her.

D.A. Lee's prosecuting attorney **Rebekah Young** repeatedly withheld evidence & refused to obey court orders. In an unusual and unprecedented sanction, **Judge Paul Burdick** fined her \$500. In an exchange caught on video at <http://occupysantacruz.org/2012/07/19/santa-cruz-da-befriends-the-usual-suspects/>, Lee publicly told his victims “if you will pay [Wells Fargo] \$23,000, it would be a different ball game”. Apparently acting as the bank's bill collector, Lee wants impoverished and innocent defendants to pay for the inflated clean-up costs at the still-vacant structure. There was some graffiti and some damaged furniture done by parties unknown. SCPD took no action to pinpoint actual vandals, instead using the protest as an opportunity to **frame well-known long-time police critics & media** at the protest.

**No evidence links any of the four with any vandalism.** They face a possible four years in prison if convicted under a tortured “if they were there, they aided and abetted” theory. Meanwhile, Wells Fargo continues to destroy families, confiscate homes, and pass on obscene bonuses to its top brass.

**Charges against Occupy activists have been dropped** in many cities including Chicago, Occupy Nashville, Occupy Oakland (the Ice Cream 3), Occupy Phoenix, Occupy Santa Rosa, Salt Lake City, Boston, Minneapolis, Albany, St. Paul, New York, Dallas, Erie, Charleston, Raleigh, and D.C. Santa Cruz authorities still ignore bankster crimes and ignore human rights for homeless people.

## Support Activists Under Attack in Santa Cruz! Drop the Charges: End the Witchhunt!

Sign the petition at [www.santacruzelen.org](http://www.santacruzelen.org)

The opinions on this flyer are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the SC-11.

Flier by Norse of HUFF (Homeless United for Friendship & Freedom) 831-423-4833 [www.huffsantacruz.org](http://www.huffsantacruz.org) 309 Cedar PMB #1B S.C. 3-6-13